

The SJV Daily News

12th December 2025

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

She's Only Done It Again!

Ms. Griffin makes really hard things look easy. Again...







St John Vianney Catholic School

School Newsletter

Edition: 349 12th December 2025

"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Christmas Cheer? Community? Miracle?

All three! This week, we all enjoyed the highlight of the term, in a term that was already choc-full of highlights! The entire school hit the stage to tell the Nativity story in the way only an SJV community can. Events like these are much better than tests in assessing our children – our Year 6s showed they were mature, confident and skilled (which they will need as they approach their secondary school adventure) and the Reception children showed that they have learned to be a close unit with just a term under their tinsel belts! And everyone in between? Absolutely on point, adorable and happy to bring their little bit of stardust to the stage to entertain and to thrust the two full-house audiences well and truly into the Christmas spirit.

To paraphrase the Grinch (as my children used to call me), my heart grew two sizes this week – I am incredibly proud of all them, their teachers and you – the SJV family.

Mr. McNicholas

Notices & Reminders

We are a NUT FREE Zone – we have children and adults with NUT allergies. Please be mindful with your child's packed lunch and after school snacks.

Key Dates for your diary - Please keep this information for reference:

- **All after school sports clubs, before school maths and phonics interventions groups have finished for this term**
- **School Choir – last session for this term – Wednesday 17th December 8am, restarts Wednesday 7th January**
- **Christmas Jumper Day & school Christmas lunch – Wednesday 17th December**
- **Nursery Christmas sing song – Wednesday 17th December at 11.30am and 3pm – Nursery parents welcome**
- **School Choir & Soloists concert Wednesday 17th December 2.30pm**
- **End of Term Mass - Thursday 18th December 10.30am – All welcome**
- **Friday 19th December – Assembly as usual at 9am.**
- **Friday 19th December - School finishes at 1.15pm for Christmas holidays**
- **Friday 19th December – No HES After School Club – at West Green Primary School-closed**
- **There is no afternoon Nursery session on 19th December, all day Nursery children finish at 1.15pm.**
- **Tuesday 6th January 2026 - pupils return to school after the Christmas holiday**
- **All morning interventions – Y5 Maths, Y4 Maths and Y1 phonics restart on Tuesday 6th January 2026**
- **School Choir – restarts at 8am on Wednesday 7th January 2026**

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children:

On Wednesday 17th December your child can wear their school uniform and replace their school jumper with a Christmas one. Voluntary donations of £1 in aid of the charity Save the Children are payable on the School Money website.

School Money / Eduspot:

School Money have an app called **Teachers2parents**. It is a much easier way of making payments for trips, breakfast club, school fund, etc. Please ask the school office for further information.

Christmas Cards :

Whilst we understand children like to write Christmas cards to their friends and classmates **PLEASE DO NOT** enclose anything inside the cards or give treats to children to give to their classmates or to put into their class trays. We have several children and adults who have severe allergies. We are a NUT FREE zone.

Nursery Applications for January 2026:

If your child turns 3 before 31st December 2025 and you are looking for a Nursery place please come to the school office to collect an application form.

SJV Nursery



SJV Nursery 2025/2026 – 15 hours / 30 hours entitlement

Places are available for this autumn term if your child has turned **3 years by 31 August 2025**.

- If your child is due to turn **3 this autumn term, up to 31 December 2025**, we have an intake in the spring term 2026, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available after the October 2025 half term holiday for this intake.
- We also have an intake in the summer term for children turning **3 by 31 March 2026**, in the spring term, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available in February 2026 for this intake.

Please call into the school office to collect an application form or to speak to Mrs Alfonso if you have any questions.





3rd Week of Advent



Rejoice!

Word:

John the Baptist urged the people to live with generosity and justice, sharing their possessions and acting honestly in their daily lives. As the crowds respond, a spirit of joyful expectation grows among them, and many begin to wonder if John might be the Christ. John humbly points beyond himself, reminding them that he baptises with water, but that one far greater is coming after him. His words invite the people to rejoice, for the promise of the Messiah is close at hand.

Gospel According to Luke

Reflect:

In this gospel, John the Baptist taught people that following God means being kind and fair to others. He told them to share what they had and not to take more than they needed. When we help others and do what is right, we help make the world a happier place. We can rejoice because Jesus is coming to show us how to love, share, and care for everyone.

Mission:

This week, try to share like John the Baptist taught. If you have more than you need, share with someone else. Be fair, be kind, and tell the truth, even when it is hard. Look for one small way each day to help someone or make them smile. When you do this, rejoice, because you are helping prepare your heart for Jesus.

The Mission?

Share, be fair, be kind...



The Christmas Code



The tale as old as time, told in ever imaginative ways! What a beautiful celebration of the Nativity story hit the SJV stage this week. All-singing, all-dancing, some stellar performances by Year 6 in the lead roles and all held together by the capital's best Choir! A truly proud moment for all in the room.



The Christmas Code



The Christmas Code



The Christmas Code



The Christmas Code



Choir at Ally Pally



The SJV Choir got all Christmassy when they visited Ally Pally to add their unique piece to Haringey Music Service's Christmas celebrations.



Choir at Ally Pally



Online Safety

Age ratings

Despite age restrictions, many primary school children access popular social media and entertainment platforms. These Apps are NOT recommended for primary aged children, particularly without parental controls and supervision:

YouTube (13+) – Video streaming platform with a separate YouTube Kids app for younger users.

TikTok (13+) – Short-form video-sharing app with a restricted mode for younger users.

Instagram (13+) – Photo and video-sharing social media platform owned by Meta.

Snapchat (13+) – Social media app for sharing disappearing messages and videos.

Roblox (13+ for full access, but children under 13 can have restricted accounts) – Online game creation and playing platform.

Discord (13+) – Chat and voice communication app popular among gamers.

Facebook (13+) – Social media platform, though less commonly used by younger children.

Twitter (now X) (13+) – Social media and microblogging platform.

Twitch (13+) – Live streaming platform, mainly for gaming content.

Reddit (13+) – Forum-based social platform with a variety of discussions.

Online Safety

There are several reliable websites where parents can check **age ratings, safety information, and parental controls** for apps their children are using. Here are some suggestions:

1. Common Sense Media

- Provides **detailed reviews** of apps, games, movies, and websites.
- Includes **age ratings, expert opinions, and parent/child reviews**.
- Explains risks such as privacy concerns, in-app purchases, and chat features.

2. ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board)

- Official age ratings for **video games and some apps**.
- Helps parents understand the content (e.g., violence, language, online interactions).

3. Google Play Store & Apple App Store

- Official age ratings for each app.
- Found in the **app description** under "Age rating" or "Parental Guidance".

4. Internet Matters

- UK-based resource with **parent guides on digital safety**.
- Provides **app safety advice, age ratings, and parental controls**.

5. National Online Safety

- Provides **free downloadable safety guides** for popular apps.
- Covers potential risks like **cyberbullying, privacy, and in-app purchases**.